



person identification certificate authority includes, as indispensable data, an identifier capable of identifying the person identification certificate and identification data of the person to be authenticated on the basis of the person identification certificate.

4. A person authentication system according to claim 1, wherein the template information is encrypted using a public key of said personal identification certificate authority and stored in the person identification certificate to be generated by said personal identification certificate authority.

5. A person authentication system according to claim 1, wherein the template information is encrypted using a public key of said entity and stored in the person identification certificate to be generated by said personal identification certificate authority.

6. A person authentication system according to claim 1, wherein the template information is encrypted using a common key and stored in the person identification certificate to be generated by said identification certificate authority, the common key being encrypted using a public key of said entity and stored in the person identification certificate.



executed on the basis of the person identification certificate.

11. A person authentication system according to claim 1, wherein the templates stored in the person identification certificate include at least one of fingerprint information, retina pattern information, iris pattern information, voice print information, and handwriting information which are biometric information, and a seal, a passport, a driver's license, and a card which are non-biometric information, or include a combination of at least one of the information and a password.

12. A person authentication system according to claim 1, wherein said entity is a service provider that makes a deal with a user who has been identified on the basis of the person identification certificate, a user device accessed by a user who has been identified on the basis of the person identification certificate, or said person identification certificate authority.

13. A person authentication method for executing personal authentication by comparing templates with sampling information input by a user, the templates being personal identification data acquired beforehand, the person

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identification method comprising the steps of:

generating and issuing, at a personal identification certificate authority, a person identification certificate that has data items in accordance with a predetermined format and that stores template information including the templates; and

acquiring, at an entity, the person identification certificate and executing a person authentication process on the basis of the templates of the acquired person identification certificate.

14. A person authentication method according to claim 13, wherein a digital signature of said personal identification certificate authority is added to the person identification certificate to be issued at said personal identification certificate authority.

15. A person authentication method according to claim 13, wherein the template information is encrypted using a public key of said personal identification certificate authority and stored in the person identification certificate to be generated at said personal identification certificate authority.

16. A person authentication method according to claim

13, wherein the template information is encrypted using a public key of said entity and stored in the person identification certificate to be generated at said personal identification certificate authority.

17. A person authentication method according to claim 13, wherein the template information is encrypted using a common key and stored in the person identification certificate to be generated at said personal identification certificate authority, the common key being encrypted using a public key of said entity and stored in the person identification certificate.

18. A person authentication method according to claim 13, wherein the template information is encrypted and stored, along with corresponding encryption algorithm information, in the person identification certificate to be generated at said personal identification certificate authority.

19. A person authentication method according to claim 13, wherein a personal information data of the person to be authenticated is stored in the certificate identification certificate to be generated at said personal identification certificate authority.



predetermined format and which stores template information including the templates; and

processing means for verifying the person identification certificate, acquiring the templates from the person identification certificate, and executing a person authentication process on the basis of the acquired templates.

23. An information processing apparatus according to claim 22, further comprising encryption processing means for decrypting encrypted templates stored in the person identification certificate.

24. A program providing medium for providing a computer program which executes, on a computer system, a person authentication process for executing personal authentication by comparing templates with sampling information input by a user, the sampling information being personal identification data acquired beforehand, the program providing medium comprising the steps of:

generating and issuing, at a personal identification certificate authority, a person identification certificate that has data items in accordance with a predetermined format and that stores template information including the templates; and



acquiring, at an entity, the person identification certificate and executing a person authentication process on the basis of the templates of the acquired person identification certificate.

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